

a perfect riddle; nay, it is uncertain whether it would even hang together.

The bill is founded on a total misconception of our institutions, and of existing facts. It is a misconception pervading the whole federal party. They strangely imagine that there is, in the Federal Constitution, a hole for all the evils of life. No evil can exist but the powers of this government are competent to reach it. Like the orient, spoken of by the Senator from New York, [Mr. Benton,] which a man may find in his waistcoat pocket, it may be dug forth so as to cover the army of Xerxes. It is the radical error of that party, and this root springs forth a legion of errors. This little fountain issue large streams respondent in bitterness. The gentlemen the Constitution as a certain personage to utter his prayers—backwards. So from restricting its action to the province wanted powers, they seem to consider it potent except so far as its action is expressly restricted. Instead of forbearing to cease federal power where the right is left, they exert it often where it is manifestly not legitimately exist. This, I have said, their radical political mistake, I from numerous errors have sprung up and overspread the land. Many of these errors have even taken possession of the democratic ranks, and insinuated their corrupting influences into the purest administration this country has ever seen. It is impossible to associate with bad men and not imbibe corruption. "Evil communications corrupt good manners," said an inspired man; and thus it is that the democratic politicians, daily associating with the federalists, and often personally esteeming and admiring the men, become, insensibly, more or less tainted with their political heresies. It is no wonder, then, that we find it difficult to preserve the democratic faith pure and unadulterated. Every democratic administration has found more or less federalism creeping into its measures.

But even in an unlimited Government it is acknowledged, as a wise maxim, that much legislation ought to be avoided; that no law should pass until an existing evil, demanding correction, is apparent, and the remedy proposed seems likely to prove efficient, without creating evils greater than it is intended to remove. The bill under consideration assumes that there is an evil, and proposes a remedy; and in the assumption of that evil, exposes one of the most dangerous and operative errors of the whole Opposition party, viz: that the people and the Government are foreign to each other, and may have separate and distinct interests. So much are they dazzled by British glory, and so accustomed are they to give credit to that country for all we possess, that they can conceive of no political proposition which would be true in Britain and not true in this country. They forget that our Constitution was formed by the people, that it is, in truth, a mere social compact, and that it is one of the people who is employed in each office necessary to give efficiency to the compact; while the British constitution recognises the king as the fountain of all honor and power, and all the emanations of liberty it contains, consist of concessions made from time to time by him. Here, power and authority is entirely official; there, it is personal as well as official. Here, power and authority is continually falling back into the common mass, to be disposed of anew as it shall determine. There, it has a perpetual existence, separated from the mass of the people, into whose hands it can never fall without a revolution. Confounding things so totally dissimilar, naturally leads gentlemen into further errors. They suppose that what is an evil in one country, must necessarily be so in another where the same state of things exists, and that the same remedies are applicable. This would be all true, if their first supposition were not altogether erroneous; but, being so, all the conclusions drawn from it are misapplied. But of what does the bill complain? Of bribery? No! That is not pretised, or proper punishment for it is already provided. What, then, is the evil? It is stated in the caption of the bill: "A bill to prevent the interference of certain Federal officers in elections." To the end that the great powers given to the officers of the Federal Government, and other persons employed in its service, may not be used for the influencing of elections, which ought to be free and uncorrupt."

Now, sir, what are those great powers given to Federal officers? Can any man point one of them out? Has the Senator in his bill told us what they are, or indicated even one of them? To use an expression of the Senator from Virginia, he has entirely pretermitted them. I deny their existence. They are among the phantoms which vivid imaginations have of late so frequently made to stalk across the political stage, to frighten men from their property. It would have been impossible for the Senator to point out those great powers to which he alludes, and he has therefore taken the more judicious course of assuming their existence as a matter needing no proof.—Every man is conscious, in his own experience, of the effect this process has upon the mind. The use of the simple epithet "Cicero the orator," is much more persuasive to the mind than the most labored argument. A like course is pursued in the construction of this bill. It assumes as a fact that requires proof, and ingeniously passing by the fact, states the principle also in such obscure terms, that the mind is not a little confused by the semblance of propriety and its real inconsistency with sound doctrine. No one will deny that if office holders, or any other persons, endeavor to corrupt the voters at an election by bribes or promises, it would be grossly criminal, while at the same time any argument addressed to their reason and patriotism would be highly proper. If the office holders use the former, their acts are grossly criminal, and they can doubtless be punished by the existing laws; but against the latter there is not, nor ought there to be, any law. The bill assumes that great powers exist in Federal officers, which are applied unfairly to the control of elections; and this I deny, *alto celo*. This assumption of the bill is calculated to give force and circulation to one of the most dangerous errors in public opinion, now becoming too prevalent, that office holders and office seekers should be an odious class. Why should they be so? It is contrary to practice

and opinion in the purest days of ancient liberty. It is contrary to sound opinion now. The man who devotes himself to the service of his country is no fit object for contempt.—If a man seeks office by base and dishonorable means, or seeks to retain it, when obtained, by any unfair devices, he is a base and dishonest man; but in the receiving or holding office itself there is no dishonor. He who serves his country on the field of battle is honored by all. If it could be ascertained that he had done so from base and dishonorable motives, respect would be withdrawn, and the finger of scorn pointed at him. But if, in that service, it could be discovered that he was moved by no higher consideration than "seeking the bubble, reputation, even in the cannon's mouth," he would be hailed with acclamation. And is it for the American people to think, or say, that he who seeks their favor by fair and honorable means acts unworthily? That he who aspires to distinction, by filling the offices they confer, is not thereby seeking honor? It has been fashionable of late to hold such doctrines, and this bill follows up the idea, and endeavors to widen the gulf between the people and their official agents. And why has it become fashionable? There are two principal reasons: the one is, that a spirit of avarice is abroad throughout our land, and bending every soul to its sway, and leveling all distinctions but those which money can create. Wealth is the only true badge of honor, and as wealth is seldom obtained in faithful public service, public service has ceased to be honorable. The other reason is obvious. Many who desire office are disappointed, and, like the fox in the fable, cry out "sour grapes;" while, like the same fox, they are ready to seize upon every cluster that hangs within their reach. Sir, public opinion upon this subject is fast being perverted, and this bill is calculated to contribute greatly to that perversion. In the soundest days of the Republic, it was an honor to serve the country in any capacity; and, in the language of the report, every man who shrunk from it was deemed an *idiot*. The man who seeks the service of his country by honorable means, should be honored. There is but one honorable mode of seeking it, and that is by discharging faithfully the duties of the station he already fills, and fitting himself to fill others well when called upon. Let those who denounce office holders and office seekers lay their hands upon their hearts and answer, whether they do not desire office and would not hold it if they might. Not one in a million could answer in the negative, and those few would be found mostly among the indolent, the sordid, or the misanthropic. Nothing can be more unfavorable to the stability of our institutions than the spread of this prejudice against the office which Federal men and Federal presses are active in propagating. I had the good fortune the other day to peruse the letter of the celebrated John Taylor, of Caroline, lately brought to the public attention, so replete with instructive matter. Speaking of the operations of the paper monopoly party, he says, among other things: "It will detract the public mind, detach the national confidence, by falsehood and artifice, from its honest servants, and by its own acts, avowedly to erect monarchy, under the pretence of restoring order." This is precisely what it is now doing, and the great tendency of the bill under consideration, by stirring up suspicion between the people and their officers, and detaching the confidence of the former from their honest servants. This bill rests upon the basis that the interests of the people and their officers are at variance, and, if that basis be false, the whole fabric must fall. No one would object to persons having common interests consulting together about those interests. The assumption then of an existing evil is erroneous, and the necessity, therefore, for a remedy is without proof.

[Conclusion next week.]

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

To the Senate of the United States.

I lay before Congress several despatches from his Excellency the Governor of Maine, with enclosures, communicating certain proceedings of the Legislature of that State, and a copy of the reply of the Secretary of State, made by my direction, together with a note from H. S. Fox, Esq. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Great Britain, with the answer of the Secretary of State to the same.

It will appear by those documents that a numerous band of lawless and desperate men, chiefly from the adjoining British Provinces, but without the authority or sanction of the Provincial Government, had trespassed on that portion of territory in dispute between the United States and Great Britain which is watered by the river Aroostook, and claimed to belong to the State of Maine; and that they had committed extensive depredations there by cutting and destroying a very large quantity of timber. It will further appear that the Governor of Maine, having been officially apprised of the circumstances, had communicated to the Legislature, with a recommendation of such provisions, in addition to those already existing by law, as would enable him to arrest the course of said depredations, disperse the trespassers, and secure the timber which they were about carrying away; that in compliance with a resolve of the Legislature, passed in pursuance of his recommendation, his Excellency had despatched the land agent of the State, with a force deemed adequate to that purpose, to the scene of the alleged depredations, who, after accomplishing a part of his duty, was seized by a band of the trespassers, at a house claimed to be within the jurisdiction of Maine, whither he had repaired for the purpose of meeting and consulting with the land agent of the Province of New Brunswick, and conveyed as a prisoner to Frederickton, in that Province, together with two other citizens of the State, who were assisting him in the discharge of his duty.

It will also appear that the Governor and Legislature of Maine, satisfied that the trespassers had acted in defiance of the laws of both countries, learning that they were in possession of arms, and anticipating (correctly, as the result proved) that persons of their reckless and desperate character would set at naught the authority of the magistrates, without the aid of a strong force, authorised the sheriff, and the officer appointed in the place

of the land agent, to employ, at the expense of the State, an armed posse, who had proceeded to the scene of these depredations, with a view to the entire dispersion, or arrest of the trespassers, and the protection of the public property.

In the correspondence between the Governor of Maine and Sir John Harvey, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, which has grown out of these occurrences, and is likewise herewith communicated, the former is requested to recall the armed party advanced into the disputed territory for the arrest of trespassers, and is informed that a strong body of British troops is to be held in readiness to support and protect the authority and subjects of Great Britain in said territory. In answer to that request the Provincial Governor is informed of the determination of the State of Maine to support the land agent and his party, in the performance of their duty, and the same determination, for the execution of which provision is made by a resolution of the State Legislature, is communicated by the Governor to the General Government.

The Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, in calling upon the Governor of Maine for the recall of the land agent and his party from the disputed territory, and the British Minister in making a similar demand upon the Government of the United States, proceed upon the assumption that an agreement exists between the two nations conceding to Great Britain, until the final settlement of the boundary question, exclusive possession of, and jurisdiction over, the territory in dispute. The important bearing which such an agreement, if it existed, would have upon the condition and interests of the parties, and the influence it might have upon the adjustment of the dispute, are too obvious to allow the error upon which this assumption seems to rest, to pass for a moment without correction. The answer of the Secretary of State to Mr. Fox's note, will show the ground taken by the Government of the United States upon this point. It is believed that all the correspondence which has passed between the two Governments upon this subject has already been communicated to Congress, and is now on their files.—An abstract of it, however, hastily prepared, accompanies this communication. It is possible that in thus abridging a voluminous correspondence, commencing in 1825 and continuing to a very recent period, a portion may have been accidentally overlooked; but it is believed that nothing has taken place which would materially change the aspect of the question as therein presented. Instead of sustaining the assumption of the British functionaries that correspondence disproves the existence of any such agreement. It shows that the two Governments have differed not only in regard to the main question of title to the territory in dispute, but with reference also to the right of jurisdiction, and the fact of the actual exercise of it in different portions thereof. Always aiming at an amicable adjustment of the dispute; both parties have entertained and repeatedly urged upon each other a desire, that each should exercise its rights, whatever it considered them to be, in such a manner as to avoid collision, and allay, to the extent practicable, the excitement likely to grow out of the controversy. That Maine and Massachusetts, upon the remonstrance of Great Britain, desisted from making sales of lands, and the General Government from the construction of a projected military road in a portion of the territory of which they claimed to have enjoyed the exclusive possession; and that Great Britain, on her part, in reference to a similar remonstrance from the United States, suspended the issue of licenses to cut timber in the territory in controversy, and also the survey and location of a railroad through a section of country over which she also claimed to have exercised exclusive jurisdiction.

The State of Maine had a right to arrest the depredations complained of; it belonged to her to judge of the exigency of the occasion calling for her interference; and it is presumed that had the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick been correctly advised of the nature of the proceedings of the State of Maine, he would not have regarded the transaction as requiring, on his part, any resort to force. Each party claiming a right to the territory, and hence to the exclusive jurisdiction over it, it is manifest that to prevent the destruction of the timber by trespassers, acting against the authority of both, and at the same time avoid forcible collision between the contiguous Governments during the pendency of negotiations concerning the title, resort must be had to the mutual exercise of jurisdiction in such extreme cases, or to an amicable and temporary arrangement as to the limits within which it should be exercised by each party. The understanding supposed to exist between the United States and Great Britain has been found heretofore sufficient for that purpose, and I believe will prove so hereafter, if the parties on the frontier, directly interested in the question, are respectively governed by a just spirit of conciliation and forbearance. If it shall be found, as there is no reason to apprehend, that there is in the modes of construing that understanding by the two Governments, a difference not to be reconciled, I shall not hesitate to propose to her Britannic Majesty's Government a distinct arrangement for the temporary and mutual exercise of jurisdiction, by means of which similar difficulties may in future be prevented.

But between an effort on the part of Maine to preserve the property in dispute from destruction by intruders and a military occupation by that State of the territory, with a view to hold it by force, while the settlement is a subject of negotiation between the two Governments, there is an essential difference, as well in respect to the position of the State, as to the duties of the General Government. In a letter addressed by the Secretary of State to the Governor of Maine, on the first of March last, giving a detailed statement of the steps which had been taken by the Federal Government to bring the controversy to a termination, and designed to apprise the Governor of that State of the views of the Federal Executive, in respect to the future, it was stated, that while the obligations of the Federal Government to do all in its power to effect the settlement of the boundary question were fully recognized, it had, in the event of being unable to do so specifically, by mutual consent,

no other means to accomplish that object amicably, than by another arbitration, or by a commission with an umpire in the nature of an arbitration; and that in the event of all other measures failing, the President would feel it his duty to submit another proposition to the Government of Great Britain, to refer the decision of the question to a third power.—These are still my views upon the subject, and until this step shall have been taken, I cannot think it proper to invoke the attention of Congress to other than amicable means for the settlement of the controversy, or to cause the military power of the Federal Government to be brought in aid of the State of Maine, in any attempt to effect that object by a resort to force.

On the other hand, if the authorities of New Brunswick should attempt to enforce the claim of exclusive jurisdiction set up by them, by means of a military occupation on their part of the disputed territory, I shall feel myself bound to consider the contingency provided by the Constitution as having occurred, on the happening of which a State has the right to call for the aid of the Federal Government to repel invasion.

I have expressed to the British Minister near this Government a confident expectation that the agents of the State of Maine, who have been arrested under an obvious misapprehension of the object of their mission, will be promptly released; and to the Governor of Maine that a similar course will be pursued in regard to the agents of the Province of New Brunswick. I have also recommended that any militia that may have been brought together by the State of Maine, from an apprehension of a collision with the Government or people of the British Province, will be voluntarily and peaceably disbanded.

I cannot allow myself to doubt that the results anticipated from these representations will be seasonably realized. The parties more immediately interested cannot but perceive that an appeal to arms, under existing circumstances, will not only prove fatal to their present interests, but would postpone, if not defeat, the attainment of the main objects which they have in view. The very incidents which have recently occurred will necessarily awaken the Governments to the importance of promptly adjusting a dispute, by which it is now made manifest that the peace of the two nations is daily and imminently endangered. This expectation is further warranted by the general forbearance which has hitherto characterized the conduct of the Government and people on both sides of the line. In the uniform patriotism of Maine, her attachment to the union, her respect for the wishes of the people of her sister States, of whose interest in her welfare she cannot be unconscious, and, in the solicitude felt by the country at large for the preservation of peace with our neighbors, we have a strong guarantee that she will not disregard the request that has been made of her.

As, however, the session of Congress is about to terminate, and the agency of the Executive may become necessary during the recess, it is important that the attention of the Legislature should be drawn to the consideration of such measures as may be calculated to obviate the necessity of a call for an extra session. With that view, I have thought it my duty to lay the whole matter before you, and to invite such action thereon as you may think the occasion requires.

M. VAN BUREN.  
WASHINGTON, 26th February, 1839.

#### AGRICULTURAL.

You who have worn out your land, planting cotton, tobacco and corn, and then corn, tobacco and cotton again, read the facts stated below, and don't wait any longer—get silk worms' eggs this spring and go to work with the mulberry trees that are now growing on almost all your plantations.

From the Journal of the American Institute.

#### SILK.

Mr. Danforth, by the following communication, which came with the silk referred to and exhibited at the Eleventh Annual Fair, has rendered his countrymen a timely and a most acceptable service. Thousands are commencing, and hundreds of thousands are contemplating the raising of silk. They are seeking information. They require to be informed, in few words, how to commence and how to proceed. Mr. D. has told them practically, all he did, in plain and simple words, and the results, which are truly wonderful.—They have only to go and do likewise. He has told all from the planting of the mulberry to the completion of the cocoon. There are volumes on silk that do not afford half the useful information contained in this short account. The beginner cannot mistake. The account is made up of facts, and nothing but facts. Can any one doubt that it is in our power to raise silk to almost any amount that can be named? The work is begun.—The enterprise of our country is pressing on the culture of silk; and the first movement for this purpose, the supply of the mulberry, is progressing on a vast scale, covering our country, and surpassing any thing ever witnessed. The propagation of the mulberry is like a creation. In a short period,—two or three years,—millions on millions have come forth, and every new bud becomes a tree.—He who doubts our becoming a great silk growing nation, knows nothing of America. Let it be done in a plain, common sense way; let it become an appendage of agriculture; avoid scientific silk growing, by means of great establishments, with thermometers and barometers, taught by large books imported from foreign countries. There is no more necessity for them, in growing silk, than there is in raising chickens; and a great incorporated company, with hundreds of thousands of dollars of capital stock, with presidents, directors, secretaries and treasurers, would be just as likely to succeed in raising eggs and chickens, as silk worms and cocoons. Begin in the simple, domestic way. Employ such domestics as have no employ, or those the least profitably employed. Mr. Danforth, in a note, desires it may be impressed distinctly on those seeking information, that this was an experiment, made by entire novices; that the feeding was only for two months and ten days, and the crop all produced in four

months, including the time of planting the trees, and that the product was ten hundred and ninety skeins of forty yards each.

#### TO THE COMMITTEE ON SILK AMERICAN INSTITUTE:

Gentlemen,—The vast importance of the silk culture to our country, and the eagerness of the public to obtain information respecting it, make it the duty of every one engaged in producing a "silk crop," to furnish his quota of knowledge, that thus a mass of practical information may be collected, from which we may go forward with confidence, and gather in the rich harvest which is before us.

With these views, and in compliance with the solicitation of my fellow-citizens, I give you the result of my experience during the past summer. I would first promise, that in making a trial of the silk culture, it was my desire to adopt a mode which could be followed by our agriculturists at large, rather than to show the greatest possible quantity of silk that could be produced from a given portion of land. Such an experiment, made under peculiar advantages of soil and culture, yielding a large product, might be viewed with admiration, but the means being beyond the reach of the mass of our citizens, the same results could not be attained.

The field from which the experiment was made, was situated in East Hartford—the soil, of a light sandy nature, of a quality termed in that quarter, good corn land. It was ploughed about the middle of May, and harrowed and furrowed in the usual manner.—The roots and trees (*Morus Multicaulis*) were now laid down, and covered from two to four inches, the tops having a slight upward inclination; they were placed about twelve inches apart in the row, the rows three and a half feet apart, having been previously moderately manured.

After the field was planted, a section comprising one eighth of an acre was marked off, to be subjected to a more particular experiment. It was stocked with 780 roots and trees, all of one year's growth, having had their tops partially or wholly killed by the severity of the past season. One third were two feet high, one third one foot, stripped of their limbs, and the remainder were roots without tops. By 1st of June the new shoots began to show themselves, and by the 1st of July they numbered 4,800, and had attained the height of twelve to eighteen inches.

A family of 4,000 worms was now started, which wound up on the 23d July, having consumed 131 lbs. leaves. Three other lots, amounting in all to 28,000, were now put out at intervals of several days, in order to favor the increasing growth of the leaves. By the 10th of Sept. the last had finished their labors. Weight of leaves consumed in Aug., 7.1 lbs. and in Sept. 332 lbs.

Total weight of leaves gathered 1164 lbs.  
Total number of worms fed 32,000  
Producing nine bushels cocoons.  
Yielding (so far as reeled) 1 lb. of silk per bushel.  
Weight of cocoons. 95 lbs.  
Waste silk and floss. 1 lb.

Twenty-seven thousand of the worms were of the two crop kind, requiring 4,000 to make a pound of silk, and consuming 244 lbs. of leaves. The remaining 5,000 were of the long crop six weeks worms, 2,500 of which produced a pound of silk, and consumed 90 lbs. of leaves. It was my intention to have fed the long crop worms entirely, as they are known to be much the most productive of any other kind, but they could not be procured.

Business now calling me away, the feeding was discontinued, and the trees were immediately removed from the ground, having attained an average height of 4-1-2 feet, well rooted, and with heavy limbs.

The produce of the one-eighth of an acre, as above, it appears is 9 bushels cocoons, or 9 lbs. silk; being at the rate of 72 lbs. per acre from the feeding between the 1st July and the 10th Sept. It is easy to see, that had the 1,164 lbs. leaves been fed to worms of the six weeks kind, the yield would have been 13 lbs. of silk, or nearly—and from the rapidity with which the new leaves were developing when the trees were removed, it is presumed that had they remained during September, enough more might have been added, to have swelled the product, so as to have made the crop at the rate of 125 lbs. per acre.

During the period of feeding, the safety and even advantage to the tree of frequent defoliation was fully proved. The trees from which this experiment was made, were stripped of their leaves four different times, yet at no time were they inferior to others that were untouched; on the contrary, it was remarked, that where the leaves were removed, the limbs shot forth with greater vigor—care being taken to leave the tender leaves at the ends of the branches.

The very great advantage of this species of mulberry over standard trees, was manifest; while such trees are difficult to access, and from the small size of the leaves, requiring much labor to gather any quantity, it was easy for a child to take from the *Morus Multicaulis* 15 to 20 lbs. in an hour.

The plan of retarding the hatching of the eggs by keeping them in an ice house, was found perfectly successful; the worms which wound the finest cocoons were thus kept back until the 3d of August.

It may be useful to new beginners to know that the large 6 weeks worm, either white or sulphur colored, is altogether preferable to the two crop; for not only are they more productive of silk, but from their superior length of thread, the reeler is able to produce silk of better quality, and with less labor.

The convenience of a shrub tree, where the farmer wishes to change his crop, may be seen from the fact, that with the use of a plough, the trees on this section of land, 4,800 in number, were turned out of the ground in 30 minutes. An hour more was sufficient to cart them from the field.

Every one who takes up the culture of silk, is surprised at the ease and certainty with which it is produced; and of this experiment it may be observed, that none of the persons who took care of the trees, gathered the leaves or fed the worms, had ever seen a tree or silk worm before.

I am not acquainted with the comparative merits of the *Morus Multicaulis*, and other kinds of mulberry; but large as has been the estimate of some cultivators, of the produce

and value of the former. I believe its astonishing power of reproducing foliage, its tenacity of life, and the great ease with which it is multiplied have never been overrated. A friend informs me that a field of roots, deprived of their tops last fall, remained in the ground during winter, and that from the new shoots, which started as early as any other vegetation, he was able to feed from one to two months earlier than from others planted the following May. From these collected facts, we may form an idea of the quantity of leaves, and the consequent weight of silk that may be obtained from the *Morus Multicaulis*, when it shall have attained greater age, even in this latitude.

I am not able to name the cost of raising silk; but an intelligent cultivator of my acquaintance, from a proof of three successive years, rates it at \$2 per lb., exclusive of the cost of trees and the tillage; respecting the latter I am of opinion the labor bestowed on a field of mulberry, need not be more than on a field of Indian corn.

It appears therefore, that nearly all the labor of raising silk, viz: plucking the leaves, feeding the worms, and reeling it into sewings, may be performed by the females of a family, and thus the product be considered a clear gain, like that of any other collateral branch of farming. The growing of silk needs but to be looked into, to be appreciated; and \$100 lbs. can be produced the first year of planting, worth \$5 the pound in raw silk, or \$9 when in sewings, what other crop, it may be asked, can be named coming near it for profit?

I will only add, gentlemen, that it is cheering to see the interest the American Institution has taken in this all-important subject, and to express the hope, that the coming Exhibition, from our silk growers, and the increased patronage of the Institute, may give to it a fresh interest.

Yours, respectfully,  
J. DANFORTH.

Hartford, Sept. 19th, 1838.

#### POPULAR.

From the New York Evening Star.

#### PARIS.

From our special Correspondent.

January 24, 1839.

We are in a whirl of politics, and there is much excitement on this account. But as a foreigner, I avoid being led into it. Depend on it, you shall not have details and opinions from me which you will find so much better given in the papers. As it is on your side of the water, I may tell you that Mexico—spite of our blow-up at San Juan de Ulla—is to be abandoned. And oh, how awfully does France fare in Africa! Algiers is the only place where the soldiers have beds—a every other post they must sleep in their clothes, with a lit aw (if they can get it between them and the damp earth. I saw a letter from an officer, quartered at Stora, in which he tells his friend that he would not give a pair of wooden shoes, which he had just procured, for 8 Napoléons!

The F. cess Mary is forgotten already—except by a family. Louis Philippe seem to have added ten years to his appearance since her death. He was proud as well a fond of her—and had just cause.

If we are in a whirl of politics, we are also in a whirl of pleasure. To-morrow (the 25th) there will be a great ball in aid of the pensioners on the Civil List of poor, banished Charles Dix. On the 29th (next Tuesday) will be a ball in aid of the Poles. It will be as fashionably atted as the first name, which will be a *legitimate* one. On the 31, Madame de Choiseul gives a splendid ball, which "all the world is invited." Many more are on the tapis—three are especially expected from the Marquis and Marchioness de G. liot, who have a very splendid house in the Rue de Bac, (that occupied by the Duke of Northumberland when he was special Ambassador from George IV. to the Coronation of Charles X.) in a part of which the Infantes of Spain now have rooms.

The Duchess de Dino, now Talleyran (niece to the old politician) has a beautiful daughter, Madlle. Pauline de Talleyran whose marriage is now on the eve of taking place. The "happy man" is Count de Castellane, son of Lieutenant General Caste lane.

The Count de Mercy is about wedding Madlle. de Orillon, sister of Countess Charles Pozzo di Borgo, in whose veins flows some of the most ancient blood of France.

Paris is very much improved since the death of Louis XVIII. On all sides new buildings are springing up. The working people have full employment and high wages. The wretched paved ways are abolished, and there are foot pavements for pedestrians in the principal streets. There is gas as brilliantly it looks. One effect is to make the cafes, shops, and restaurants, at once better lighted and more splendid.

I mentioned in a former letter that the restaurants are not what they were. Those attended by the English are not. But a few attended by the French, and to which few the English go, are in great style and exquisitely taste. Fancy a room of great extent embellished with mirrors of large sizes, gilded roofs and columns, and lighted with a profusion of gas from lustres of cut glass, and you may have some idea of the gorgeousness of the scene. At one end of the room, in the neat tribune or sort of recess, sits the lady enthroned. Her dress is rich and her beauty striking. Her you salute as you enter an retire; if you know her, or have been at the restaurant before, you may address her, and depend on it, she will speak with wit and spirit—as French women ever do.

No American or English dining house gives an idea of a Parisian one of the best class. The splendor is unique. Take it saloon of the *Trois Freres Provencaux* for example. You are served off plate—you have choice out of a *caute* of 200 dishes—a dinner of soup, 3 dishes at choice, a dessert and half bottle of light *Vin Ordinaire*, is two francs, or forty cents. You may, if you please, pay a Napoleon or ten Napoléons for the meal, but at the low price above named is as good as man can eat.

Paris is thronged with cabs and omnibuses. They run in all directions, and at a rapid rate that it is dangerous to cross a street, on foot, at times. They are never